

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF CONCORD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

PROCLAMATION

May 5, 2014

- WHEREAS** Nathaniel Hawthorne remains one of the most important figures in American literary history, as the author of iconic works like *The Scarlet Letter* and *The House of the Seven Gables*; and,
- WHEREAS** Hawthorne spent several of his most important years in Concord, Massachusetts, beginning in 1842 and again in 1852; and,
- WHEREAS** several of Hawthorne's writings are inspired by or make direct reference to the Town and people of Concord, including *Mosses from an Old Manse*; and,
- WHEREAS** Hawthorne's presence in the Town remains indelible in places like the Old Manse and The Wayside, as well as his grave at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery; and,
- WHEREAS** many other Concord notables, including Ralph Waldo Emerson, Bronson and Louisa May Alcott, and Henry David Thoreau, remain equally connected to the life and work of Hawthorne; and,
- WHEREAS** this year, 2014, marks 150 years since Nathaniel Hawthorne's death, and his burial in Concord on May 23, 1864; and,
- WHEREAS** several local community organizations and individuals, including the Old Manse, The Wayside, and Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, have come together to honor the life of Hawthorne in this important anniversary year with a series of events and programs;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town of Concord, Massachusetts, joins in honoring Nathaniel Hawthorne by naming the week of May 18 through May 24, 2014 as NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE WEEK and inviting the community to join in the commemoration.



Mark Weir
Steve Ng
Corey
Alicia Langman
Louise F. Woodward

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